

Recycling bottles and cans saves energy

:30 second radio PSA

Originally recorded at WATD by Bob Griffin of Marshfield and Claire Sullivan, members of the South Shore Recycling Cooperative

B: Hey, what do you think you're doing?

C: Huh? I'm throwing out my empty water bottle. So what?

B: So what? Do you know what that thing's made of?

C: Plastic, duh

B: And what's plastic made from?

C: uh, I guess I don't know. I suppose you do?

B: Yup. Plastic's made from crude oil!

C: Really? Where'd you hear that?

B: It's on the South Shore Recycling Cooperative website, ssrc.info. It took over 2 ounces of oil to make that bottle! *

C: That's not much.

B: Well, not that much, but if you throw one out every day, it adds up. And it takes even more to make an aluminum can from ore, about half a can of fuel!**

C: Wow, that does add up. Let's see, 6 ounces a day, 365 days/year...

B: That's like 20 gallons a year! That makes a lot of greenhouse gases too.

C: So what am I supposed to do?

B: Well, if you and your friends recycled all your bottles and cans, it would save most of that energy.

C: So I'm supposed to walk over there and put them in the special bin?

B: Well, I wouldn't dare tell you what to do. But a little effort does make a big difference.

Sources:

* Bottled Water:Pouring resources down the drain (Earth Policy Institute)

* American Beverage Ass'n

* <http://www.wasteonline.org.uk/resources/InformationSheets/Plastics.htm>

* American Plastics Council Plastics Resource

* NAPCOR Plastic Recycling fun facts

** Can Manufacturers Institute 1993. The Great Aluminum Can Roundup

<http://www.cancentral.com/>